

APTA



American Physical Therapy Association
Montana Chapter

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To: Members of Senate Fish and Game Committee

Re: SB 32

From: Lorena Pettet, Physical Therapist

Representing: Montana Physical Therapy Association members and their patients

The permit to hunt from a vehicle makes hunting accessible to those with functional disability. Amending SB 32 to add Physical Therapists, in addition to Chiropractors, is encouraged. Physical Therapists are licensed in Montana under Title 37, Chapter 11. Individuals have direct access to the Physical Therapists. P.T.'s perform functional capacity evaluations to determine the worker's ability to perform work, to lift, carry, walk, balance, etc. Individuals are assessed and decisions are made relating to the use of adaptive devices, assistive devices, prosthetics and orthotics. Physical Therapists assess ambulation quality, distance and velocity in everyone from toddlers to seniors. We make recommendations as to post hospitalization placement based on mobility. We are asked to document the level of disability and the ability to participate in sports. The levels of function as outlined in 87-2-803 MCA are routinely documented during the course of work with a P.T., therefore the hunter would not need to incur further cost. To make the permit truly accessible to the intended hunters, we are encouraging amendment to include Physical Therapists as an option for certification of functional disability. (page 3 line 8, 12 and 15)